

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001733

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ?: E04H 12/00, 12/02, 12/04, 12/08, 12/12, 12/22, 12/32 E02D 27/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI: IPC Class marks E04H 12/00, 12/02, 12/04, 12/08, 12/12, 12/22, 12/32 E02D 27/42 + Keywords (Strap, Band, Belt, Web, Hoop, Ring, Bracket, Support, Bridge, Splice, Pole, Pillar, Mast, Post, Pylon, Reinstate, Repair, Restore, strengthen, Reinforce)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| A | WO 1988/003593A (ELTEK HOLDINGS PTY LTD), 19 May 1988 | 1-19 |
| A | WO 1984/004348A (R.F.D CONSULTANTS PTY LTD), 8 November 1984 | 1-19 |
| A | EP 178842B (SCOTT BADER COMPANY LTD.), 24 May 1989 | 1-19 |
| A | JP 09-287318A (KIRITA), 4 November 1997 | 1-19 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C See patent family annex

| | | |
|---|-----|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | | |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" | later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "X" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" | document member of the same patent family |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | |

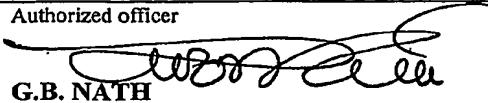
Date of the actual completion of the international search
11 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 JAN 2005

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are two inventions::

Continued on a supplemental sheet.

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: III

Claim 1 is directed to a method of reinstating a pole by abutting an inner surface of a sleeve of a bridging beam against an outer surface of the pole wherein the special technical feature is considered to be "*securing the bridging beam to the pole by strapping surrounding the pole held in place with respect to the pole by the locating members*".

Claim 11 is directed to a bridging beam for reinstating a pole (but not limited to the method claimed in claim 1) wherein the special technical feature is considered to be "*an elongate longitudinally extending raised portion of the sleeve forming a channel shaped cavity, a brace shaped so as to generally fit snugly in the channel shaped cavity and securing means for removably securing the brace within the cavity*"

Since the abovementioned independent claims do not share either of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001733

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

| Patent Document Cited in Search Report | | | Patent Family Member | | | | |
|---|---------|----|----------------------|----|----------|----|---------|
| WO | 8803593 | AU | 83239/87 | NZ | 222524 | US | 4987718 |
| WO | 8404348 | AU | 28640/84 | AU | 31056/84 | CA | 1218248 |
| | | CA | 1219429 | EP | 0149632 | EP | 0169206 |
| | | FR | 2549224 | GB | 2158853 | NZ | 208067 |
| | | NZ | 223190 | US | 4690560 | US | 4697396 |
| | | WO | 8500426 | ZA | 8403367 | | |
| EP | 0178442 | AU | 47371/85 | CA | 1265156 | CH | 663951 |
| | | DK | 458685 | ES | 8604850 | FI | 853940 |
| | | GR | 852437 | HU | 43990 | IL | 76349 |
| | | JP | 61095095 | NO | 853916 | NZ | 213767 |
| | | US | 4776984 | ZA | 8507008 | | |
| JP | 9287318 | | NONE | | | | |

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX